GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:105
ANSWERED ON:22.07.2002
USE OF DANGEROUS PESTICIDES
K. MURALEEDHARAN;N.N. KRISHNADAS

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether any detailed study has been undertaken to arrest the impact of dangerous pesticides on health;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government are aware of the serious health problems in some parts of the country, particularly in Kerala by use of `Endo Sulfan` a dangerous pesticide;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether the Union Government are aware of the lifting of the ban on using Endo Sulfan in Kerala; and

(f) if so, the remedial steps taken in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI AJIT SINGH)

(a) to (f): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFFERED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (a) TO (f) OF LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO.105 DUE FOR REPLY ON 22ND JULY, 2002.

(a)&(b): The Government have got reviewed the continued use or otherwise of those pesticides which are hazardous and banned/severely restricted in other countries of the world by constituting Expert Committees from time to time and based on the recommendations of these Committees, 27 pesticides and 4 formulations of 3 other pesticides have been banned and use of 7 pesticides has been restricted. The list is annexed.

(c)&(d): As per the first report of the study conducted by the National Institute of Occupational Health (NIOH) of the Indian Council of Medical Research, higher prevalence of unusual diseases like mental retardation, congenital defects and abnormalities of re-productive system in children in the affected villages of Kasargod district of North Kerala has been reported due to aerial spraying of pesticide Endosulfan over the cashew plantation. However, their second and final report is awaited.

(e): Yes, Sir.

(f): Government of Kerala has taken following steps:-

(i) It has prohibited the aerial spraying of endosulfan for all crops in Kerala.

(ii) Peria Division of Plantation Corporation of Kerala (PCK) would observe a pesticide holiday for a period of five years.

(iii) PCK will undertake only ground based spraying of pesticides in their cashew plantation.

(iv) All spraying operation of PCK in its cashew plantation will be carried out under the direct technical supervision of a joint Kerala Agricultural University and PCK Expert Group.

In addition to the steps taken by Kerala Government, the Registration Committee constituted under the provision of Section 5 of the Insecticides Act, 1968 has constituted an Expert Group to study the effects of use of Endosulfan in a wider perspective and make recommendations regarding its continued use/restricted use or otherwise. Further, the Government is promoting Integrated Pest Management, an eco-friendly approach encompassing cultural, mechanical, biological methods including increasing use of bio-

pesticides and need based use of chemical pesticides for plant protection.

ANNEXURE

LIST OF PESTICIDES/PESTICIDE FORMULATIONS BANNED IN INDIA

A. Pesticides banned for manufacture, import and use (24 Nos.)

1. Aldrin

2. Benzene Hexachloride

3. Calcium Cyanide

4. Chlordane

5. Copper Acetoarsenite
6. Dibromochloropropane

7 Endrin

8. Ethyl Mercury Chloride

9. Ethyl Parathion
10. Heptachlor
11. Menazone
12. Nitrofen
13. Paraquat dimethyl sulfate
14. Pentachloro nitrobenzene
15. Pentachlorophenol
16. Sodium Methane Arsonate
17. Tetradifon
18. Toxafen
19. Aldicarb
20. Chlorhenzilate
21. Dieldrin
22. Maleic hydrozide Use banned w.e.f. 17.7.2003
23. Ethylene Dibromide
24. TCA (Trichloro acetic acid)

B. Pesticide/Pesticide formulations banned for use but their manufacture is allowed for export (3 Nos.).

25. Nicotin Sulfate
26. Phenyl Mercury Acetate
27. Captafol 80% Powder – (use banned w.e.f. 17.7.2003)

C. Pesticide formulations banned for import, manufacture and use (4 Nos.)

1. Methomyl 24% L

2. Methomyl 12.5% L

3. Phosphamidon 85% SL

4. Carbofuron 50% G

D. Pesticides restricted for use in India

1. Aluminium Phosphide

2. DDT

3. Lindane

4. Methyl Bromide

5. Methyl Parathion
6. Sodium Cyanide

7 Methoxy Ethyl Merciru Chloride (MEMC)